

**Developmental Disabilities Council Minutes
Red Lion, Pasco
September 16, 2005**

Present

George Walker (Chair), Bill Anderson, Leo Finnegan, Lori Flood, Vickie Foster, Suzanne Gries, Mike Hatch, Shawn Latham, Alphonso Lee, John Lemus, Sara McQueed, Alicia McRae, Adrian Patayon, Erin Platts, Michael Raymond, Leandro Razo, Greg Rodriguez, Laethan Wene, Diana Zottman, Janet Adams (DDD), Lou Colwell (OSPI), Mark Stroh (P&A), Kelly Boston (DVR), Tabitha Harrison (DOH)

Absent

Marijo Olson (CTED), Sherrie Brown (UAP), David Kludt (MHD), Patty McDonald (ADS), Diana McMaster (MAA)

Guests

Kim Kane (Idaho DD Council), Marilyn Sword (Idaho DD Council), Sandy Latham

Staff

Ed Holen, Clare Billings, Donna Patrick, Linda Walling, Eva Rooks, Stephanie Benfield, Cathy Townley, Brian Dahl

Call to Order/Introductions

The meeting was called to order and introductions were made.

Minutes

It was pointed out that Eva was not at the July meeting. Under 2005/2006 Council Budget, the second sentence should end after \$8,000.

Motion: Council approve the July 2005 minutes as amended. Mike R. moved and Sara seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjustments To the Agenda

There were none.

Chairs Remarks

George shared that Diana M. is doing better. She was released from the hospital and her husband is driving her home.

He handed out an article from The Wall Street Journal. It focused on the advantages to corporations of hiring people with disabilities.

George reported that he, Ed and Janet met with the Governor. They discussed three items: 1) Council's mission and activities; 2) administrative overhead issues with Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED) - alternatives include the Council becoming its own small agency, affiliating with OFM or another state agency, or becoming a private non-profit; 3) the DD Endowment Trust Fund, which is still short one board member.

George reviewed the history of the DD Endowment Trust Fund. He announced that the second annual meeting would be held at the Double Tree Suites at Southcenter on Nov 21st.

He also shared that the Alliance for Full Participation Conference will be held in Washington DC on September 22nd & 23rd.

George handed out the Council's 2006 meeting schedule.

There was Council member interest in receiving more information on the Council non-profit option. Ed stated that the Governance Committee would look into it.

Executive Director Report

Ed distributed the sign up sheet for everyone to choose the new workgroups and committees that they would like to serve on in the following year. Please fill out and return to Cathy.

Ed stated that it is time to pay annual dues to the Council's federal administrative agency. The amount is \$8,806.00. The dues are set in accordance with the adopted dues structure and our FY 2005 allocation.

Motion: To approve payment of the Council's annual dues to NACDD and renew our membership. Mike H. moved and Laethan seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Government Management Accountability Performance Report (GMAP)

Clare shared that GMAP is how managers report to the agency leadership on data driven information.

On February 2, 05 Governor Gregoire declared that all state agencies would adopt GMAP reporting and staff hope to make it a regular part of the Council meeting. It will include the Executive Directors and staff report. The Council's GMAP performance measures are similar to the federal requirements for performance measurements in the Council's state plan.

The process will be that staff will compile data and present it to the Council. There will also be a report to the governor and an annual report to the Council's federal agency. Clare reviewed the three performance priorities and measurable outcomes. She also reported on the DDLOT priority and its performance outcome.

Spokane Home Ownership Project

Cathie Griffith gave a power point presentation on the pilot project Home Ownership Opportunities. She reported that 120 families had been given information about the project and that two projects targeted clients had achieved homeownership with one still pending. An advisory board has been created and is still recruiting members for the project. Cathie has identified seven barriers to homeownership. They are: credit history, long-term supports, affordability of real estate, a fast moving market, moving arrangements, maintenance obligations and estate recovery.

Committee Reports

Public Policy Committee

Lori reported that the Committee discussed:

- Mini assessments
- Legislative reception (Will be on the third floor of the Capitol Building)
- Alliance for Full Participation Summit 2005
- Accessible taxis
- DD Residential Commission
- Federal issues (Report by Clare)
- No Child Left Behind
- 2006 Legislative Agenda
- DVR (Report by Kelly)

Motion: To approve the Council's 2006 Legislative Agenda. Mike R. moved and Adrian seconded.

Bill asked the Council remove the issue on RHC consolidation from the Council's legislative issues.

Motion: To remove RHC Consolidation wording from the 2006 Legislative Issues. Bill moved and Sara seconded. Motion failed with Greg, Janet, Erin, Tabitha, Alicia, Alphonso, Lou, and Vickie abstaining.

Vote on original motion carried with Janet, Tabitha, Erin, Alicia, Alphonso, Lou, and Vickie abstaining.

Governance Committee

Suzanne reported that the Committee discussed:

- Guidelines for members to attend conferences/trainings (vote in November)
- Becoming a non-profit agency
- Reviewing and updating policies

Membership Committee

Vickie reported that the Committee discussed:

- Meeting locations (May at the Skamania Lodge, September in Yakima)
- Attendance Policy
- Mentorship for new members

Agency Reports

WA Protection and Advocacy System (WPAS)

Mark reported that the federal funding situation is having an impact on WPAS. WPAS has decided not to replace the recent vacancy created by Gillian Maguire's departure because of the funding situation. Gillian was their Director of Resource Advocacy.

Divisional of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)

Janet shared that Linda Johnson, who served on the DDC for several years retired from Central Office.

The new eligibility rules and the new application process began in July and are being followed in all offices. The DDD Mini Assessment is beginning state-wide this month. All DDD clients who do not have paid services, and new clients will be given the mini assessment. In order to accomplish this task, case managers now have different size caseloads. For clients on waivers, case managers are at a one to 75 people ratio. For clients receiving state-only funded services or MPC, case managers are at a one to 105 people ratio. For clients who receive no paid services, case managers are at a one to 500 people ratio.

The next change that will be occurring is the development and implementation of WACs to implement the Family Support pilot that the legislature funded. DDD currently has several state-funded Family Support Programs and they will also be convening a Stakeholder work group to help design a proposal on moving to one program. This must be submitted to the legislature next Fall.

The Stakeholder workgroup to look at residential programs and make recommendations to the Governor is about to be named and then they will begin their work.

DDD is also in the midst of designing the DDD Assessment Suite which will include all assessments needed for DDD services. It should be ready by Fall of 2006. DDD is partnering with the DDC to provide information and education to participants and families on all the many changes that are occurring.

Ed added that in 2006 DDD will have a joint task force on Aging/End of Life Issues.

Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

Lou reported that Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA): The deadline for comments on the IDEIA proposed regulatory language was September 6, 2005. After an extensive review of the proposed language, OSPI forwarded comments to the federal Office of Special Education Program (OSEP) in Washington D.C. There are still considerable areas that are unclear as to how states should implement the IDEIA. OSEP will review all comments and it is anticipated final regulations will be issued at the end of December 2005 or at the beginning of January 2006.

Special Education Ombudsman: The 2005 state legislation requires OSPI to establish a new position, Special Education Ombudsman, to be housed at OSPI. The purpose of the position is to assist families of children and youth with disabilities to access a single point of contact to answer questions and assist in understanding the federal and state special education laws. A small amount of funding was included for implementation.

DVR and OSPI collaboration: Terry Redmond (DVR) asked Lou to assist in reviewing a draft of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) which DVR will use to work with districts in the area of secondary transition. The MOA is required and will assist district personnel and local DVR counselors understand their respective responsibilities in developing appropriate transition plans for students exiting high school.

It was asked if OSPI Special Ed monitors could come talk to the Council.

Department of Health (DOH)

Tabitha introduced herself as the new representative on the Council from the Department of Health. She reported that Angie is no longer at DOH and that she will be assuming similar responsibilities, and is looking forward to being on the council.

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

Kelly reported that DVR is waiting for the appointment of a new Director. Official notice is being filed with the Office of Code Reviser to change the definition of priority categories under order of selection.

She shared DVR employment results for individuals with developmental disabilities this year.

DVR was one of six states chosen to receive a grant from the National Governor's Association. The grant will provide DVR with technical assistance and consultation in designing and implementing model high school transition services. Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board is the lead agency. The grant involves representation from DDD, DVR, Mental Health, higher education, OSPI, tribal representation, and others. Terry Redmon is representing DVR on the team.

DDD has invited DVR to join a work group established to design best practices for employment services for adults with developmental disabilities. DVR has designated Jim Hastings, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC) in King County, to join the work group. He has extensive experience and success in assisting individuals with developmental disabilities go to work.

DVR and DDD have also formed a work group to look at the supported employment model and how DVR and DDD can improve coordination and maximize resources.

Mental Health Division (MHD)

David was unable to attend but did provide a written report that was handed out.

With that the meeting was adjourned.